

# POLIO NEWS



Dear polio eradication supporter,

This month, global health leaders announced US\$1.2 billion in new funding to support the global polio eradication effort. The importance of this global commitment to finishing the job is underscored by outbreaks of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus in Syria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Strong leadership and adequate resources will continue to play an invaluable role as the world closes in on eradication.

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## Polio in Numbers



Data as of 21 June 2017, compared to the same point in 2016.



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### Global Health leaders commit US\$ 1.2 billion to polio eradication

On 12 June, global health leaders gathered to announce [US\\$ 1.2 billion](#) in funding for polio eradication at the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. Announcements were made by endemic country representatives, donors and leaders from GPEI partners, signalling a renewed international commitment to ending polio. This new funding will help protect more than 450 million children from the virus each year through vaccination and disease surveillance. [\[Read more\]](#)



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### Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus confirmed in Syria and the DRC

Outbreaks of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV) have been confirmed in [Syria](#) and the [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#). Circulating VDPVs are extremely rare forms of polio, mutated from live, weakened strains in the oral polio vaccine that can emerge in under immunised-populations over a long period of time. The polio programme is using proven strategies to [respond](#) quickly in order to stamp out cVDPV in both countries.



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### Dr Margaret Chan: Champion for polio eradication

After 10 years as the WHO Director-General, Dr. Margaret Chan's term has come to a close. During her tenure, Dr Chan oversaw numerous milestones in the polio eradication effort, including the end of polio in India and a record low case count in 2016. Her dedication has played a pivotal role in bringing polio to the brink of eradication, and positions the next Director-General to take the world across the finish line. [\[Read more\]](#)

#### Syria outbreak response

Michel Zaffran, Director for Polio Eradication at WHO, explains the recent cVDPV outbreak in Syria and steps available to mitigate the challenge. [\[Watch video\]](#)

#### Vaccinating in conflict zones

Past experience is helping vaccinators reach children in areas of conflict. [\[Read more\]](#)

#### PPG elects new Co-Chair

Ambassador/Deputy Permanent Representative Mitsuko Shino of the Permanent Mission of Japan has taken on the role as co-chair of the Polio Partners Group. [\[Read more\]](#)

#### KOFIH supports surveillance in Nigeria

The Korea Foundation for International Healthcare are supporting the search for polio in northern Nigeria, playing a key role in the outbreak response. [\[Read more\]](#)

#### WHO and UNICEF thank Rotary

Dr Margaret Chan and Tony Lake thank Rotary for everything they do to end polio. [\[Watch video\]](#)

## POLIO IN THE NEWS

[The Globe and Mail](#): Canada pledges \$75-million (U.S.) as world aims to eradicate polio

[Gulf News](#): UAE pledges \$30 million to polio eradication

[Washington Post](#): We're closer than ever to eradicating polio – and yet there's Syria

## Picture of the Month



After being given a dose of the polio vaccine, a child in Lahore, Pakistan, shows off the purple dot of ink on his finger that shows monitors he has been protected. @ WHO EMRO

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every last child



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